

LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2011 AT 7.15 PM AT THE RECREATION GROUND MEETING ROOM, BROOK STREET, LITTLE DUNMOW

Present: Cllrs: Atherton, Davies, Dodkins, Kerr, Thomas & Watkinson.
In the Chair: Cllr Thomas.
Clerk: Angela Balcombe.
Also present: District Cllr Crome and two members of the public.

11/00. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllr Pratt.

11/01. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of 12 September 2011 were approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Dodkins. Seconded: Cllr Kerr. All agreed.

11/02. PROGRESS CHECK.

A brief update on actions from the last meeting.

- Proposed bench near the Post Box at the north end of the village – bench to be ordered and installed soon.
- The speed sign at Pound Hill is now working.
- Thanks to Mr Blower for his help in installing the insulation in the Meeting Room.
- Play area repairs are now complete.
- Village Welcome Pack – to be included on the notice board and website.

11/03. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda. Cllr Dodkins declared a personal interest in item 11/10 as he already personally supports the Essex Air Ambulance.

11/04. PUBLIC FORUM.

- Dunmow Skips – issue with noise and rubbish. District Cllr Crome was asked to look into this on behalf of the Council to find out more information and check the operating hours.
- Speeding vehicles in Station Road – the Council to ask the police to carry out speed checks and enforcement.
- Website – complaint that it is not up to date.
- Request for extra dog bins – will be discussed when setting the budget along with the cost of emptying them.

11/05. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

An e-mail report was received from County Cllr Simon Walsh. District Cllr Crome gave a brief report on District Council matters: Enodis planning application (168 houses/40% affordable housing) – a meeting to be arranged with neighbouring parishes to discuss the application.

11/06. RECREATION GROUND.

- Use of the Recreation Ground by horses – it was confirmed that horses should not use the recreation ground.
- Use of the Recreation Ground for BBQ's – only by arrangement when the meeting room is hired out.

11/07. SALT BIN.

ECC are currently carrying out an audit of all salt bins installed on ECC owned land and will not grant permission for any new ones at the present time. It was agreed not to install the salt bin on Parish Council owned land at the present time. A notice to be put on the notice board informing residents about the availability of the salt which can only be used on the public roads/footpaths. Cllr Kerr offered to co-ordinate the distribution of salt in Brook Street.

11/08. FINANCE.

Accounts paid and cheques signed:

100561 £301.50 A Balcombe (October - Salary £277.50, Office Expenses £24.00)
100562 £190.00 M J Canning (Maintenance – Meeting Room)
100563 £40.00 Open Spaces Society (Annual Subs.)
D/D £15.32 E-on (Meeting Room)
D/D £63.50 E-on (Street lighting – September)
D/D £44.04 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance - September)
100564 £330.02 A Balcombe (November - Salary £277.50, Office Expenses £24.00, Phone x 2 £24.00, Postage £4.52)
100565 £648.00 Anglian Land Drainage (Play Area/Recreation Ground)
100566 £1,902.00 Adventure Playgrounds Ltd (Play Area Safety Surfacing)
100567 £162.00 Audit Commission (External Audit Fee 2010/11)
D/D £44.04 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance - October)
D/D £63.50 E-on (Street-lighting – October)
100568 £12.40 J Thomas (Adhesive – Meeting Room)

11/09. ANNUAL RETURN ~ 31 MARCH 2011.

The Annual Return for the year-ending 31 March 2011 has been completed with no matters raised for attention by the Audit Commission.

11/10. BUDGET / PRECEPT 2012/13.

To agree the budget and final precept demand for 2012/13.

- The total budget was agreed at £13,613.00.
- £3,113.00 will be taken from reserves to keep the precept the same as last year (£10,500.00)

The final precept demand was agreed at £10,500.00.

Proposed: Cllr Thomas. Seconded: Cllr Dodkins. Unanimously agreed.

It was stressed that the Council are making up the shortfall between the budget and the precept figure from reserves and that this was not sustainable in the long term.

11/11. MEETING ROOM BOOKINGS ~ ROTA SYSTEM.

To be discussed again in the spring. There was some discussion about the hire fees and whether or not they should be increased, however no decision was made to increase the fees at this time.

11/12. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE.

ECC – Definitive Map of Public Rights of Ways – Modification 458 (FP24). The bus shelter map needs updating. Cllr Thomas will look into it.

11/13. INFORMATION EXCHANGE / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

The following items to be included on the next agenda:

- Little Dunmow road signs and speed limit (deferred due to this meeting being the Budget Meeting).
- Footpath next to Roosters is un-walkable due to rabbit holes.

11/14. MEETING DATES 2012.

- 9 January, 12 March, 14 May, 9 July, 10 September, 12 November.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.17 PM.

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):

DATE: